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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takeshi Sano
Serial No. : 09/586,656
Filed : June 3, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2879
Examiner : M. P. Hodges

Confirmation No.: 7528

Docket No. : 00-371
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111(C)

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated September 5, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire December 5, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 7 of this paper.